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Pu'uhonua o Hōnaunau National Historical Park PRESS RELEASE

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EVENT IN THE PARK November 10, 2011, 9:30 AM – 2:00 PM Guided Archaeological Hike

Pu'uhonua o Hōnaunau National Historical Park will present a year of celebration to mark its 50th anniversary as a unit of the National Park Service. The celebration began in June with a cultural festival, with additional park events extending to May 2012.

On Thursday, November 10, 2011, the park is hosting a guided archaeological hike. The hike will cross three ahupua'a (land divisions), Hōnaunau, Keōkea, and Ki'ilae to the south park boundary. Over one mile of the 1871 Trail is present within the boundaries of the park, forming the primary coastal route for the north-south travel in the area. Historically the trail was the main coastal artery connecting several villages along its length.

Mark Twain wrote about the Keanae'e Cliffs in his book, <u>Letters from Hawaii</u>: "An old volcanic eruption sent its broad river of fire down the mountainside here, and it poured down in a great torrent from an overhanging bluff some fifty feet high to the ground below. The flaming torrent cooled in the winds from the sea, and remains there today, all seamed and frothed and rippled – a petrified Niagara".

The three mile round trip walk requires hiking shoes, hat, sunscreen and drinking water to be comfortable. Hikers will meet at the Visitor Center. This cultural event; sponsored by the County of Hawai'i and the Hawai'i Tourism Authority; provides visitors, local residents and the community a time and place to gather, learn, share and become inspired.

When: Thursday, November 10, 2011; 9:30 AM – 2 PM; Entrance fees are \$5.00 per vehicle or \$3.00 per person for walk-ins.

Where: Pu'uhonua o Hōnaunau National Historical Park – south on Highway 11 to mile marker 104, turn right on to Hwy. 160, Ke Ala o Keawe Road, for three miles.

Sponsors: County of Hawai'i and Hawai'i Tourism Authority, Nā Hoa Aloha o ka Pu'uhonua o Hōnaunau, Hawai'i Natural History Association

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